WAR SETS HEAVY HAND ON SPORTS **DURING THE YEAR**

Few New Records Set, While "Who's Who" is Made Up of the Many Who Answered Nation's Call.

War, now our own war, set its heavy hand on sports in the year tottering to its end. Glancing backward, then, one feels moved to emphasize the parts sports played in doing their "bit" rather than in recounting the accomplishments which in happier times were the natural substance of any re-

No "who's who" in sports can be published this year, for the reason that it would require two full pages and perhaps more to list the names of those who answered the nation's call in the grimmest game ever

This list would contain the names of a big majority of the leading athletes in one field or another who in other years have made sporting his-tory. This honor roll would contain the names of those who were prom-inent in foot ball, base ball, golf, lawn tennis, rowing, yachting and all other branches. Even boxing has sent a

How Different Now.

How different it all is from a year How different it all is from a year ago when in glancing back over a twelve-month, which was rich in really great accomplishments, one felt called upon to write: "Great was the year 1916 in sports. Great in the deeper sense and involving wide participation, serious consideration and important consequences."

Even then strife and bloodshed were numbing the nations of Europe. But this country was looking on

But this country was looking on from afar and sports thrived and waxed fat.

The year 1917, however, was as anaemic as 1916 was buxom and rotund. Sports were maintained for purposes of distraction and physical preparedness rather than for pur-poses of championship competition.

Same Champions.

Titles in golf and lawn tennis did not pass, with an exception here and there. The few national fixtures conducted were run as patriotic tournaments. Thus Chick Evans still wears the double crown in golf through winning the amateur and open championships in 1916. Thus Miss Alexa Stirling still holds the mational golfing title among women.

The few national fixtures the year now drifting out. The list reached much bigger proportions than usual.

Of the 40 more promient only four died in service. Natural causes were responsible for the other deaths.

David Bispham, jr., A. T. Hum-Norris Williams 2d is still the lawn tennis champion of the United States.

Rowing, both club and college, was practically eliminated. No other sport suffered such a stunning blow because of the war. Yachting also was all but wiped off the state. The yachtsmen were among the first to feel the pressure and responded by turning over the larger boats to the government for such use as could

College base ball and amateur base ball too was cut in half, while the minor leagues suffered a disastrous season from all reports and are now hanging on the ragged edge. Major league base ball, however, more than held its own and, all things considered, commanded far more support than was indicated early in the sea-

Racing Prospers.

Racing also enjoyed a prosperous year and this applies to the trotters and pacers as well as to the thor-oughbreds. There was a reason for this. Every encouragement was Jent and extra efforts made to stimulate through racing the breeding industry—the economic value of which is now being appreciated more than ever before by the government because of the scarcity of horses suitable for cavalry, artillery and re-

Boxing had an unhappy year for reasons apart from the war, Gover-nor Whitman brought about the repeal of the Frawley law and boxing in New York, while not dead, is reeling and dizzy from a knockout blow. Incidentally the sport has suffered in the minds of many, because so few of the fighting men showed any in-Many are doing their bit by serving as instructors at the various army camps, but mighty few have enlisted.

More Foot Ball.

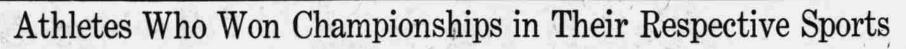
More college foot ball was played than ever before, for the reason that the game spread like wildfire at the various army camps and naval stations. In tactics, in strategy, in physical contact it more closely resembles the grim war game than any other sport and for that reason it was widely encouraged. The season, however, lacked the usual glamor, be-cause of the fact that Yale, Harvard and Princeton did not put varsity teams on the field and because the elevens of the United States Military academy at West Point and the United States naval academy at Annapolis, Md., did not clash in yearly

Track and field athletics were contracted in the outdoor season, and few of the really classic records were approached, much less beaten. The inter-collegiate championships were dropped, but the national championships were held in St. Louis and attracted far less interest than heretofore. Overton and Ray set indoor records, however, which may be last-

As to championships in general, little need be said here. They can be found in the more detailed reviews of

the leading sports which follow.

It may be suggested, however, that more and more in the last few years men and women have been turning to sports-some for the exercise in volved, some for the love of com etition and some for pure recreation. This trend is almost sure to continue, even with the approach of what looks like a darker year, for sports now are proving their value as never before as a body builder for the nation





TOLL OF DEATH THINS RANKS OF

ALL ATHLETICS

Frank Gotch, Bob Fitzsimmons, Les Darcy and Many Others Summoned by Grim Reaper During Year.

Just a thought for the men prominent in sports who passed along in

David Bispham, jr., A. T. Hum-phreys, jr., Major B. B. Lewis and "Soldier Johnny" Shaw, were the four who came to their end after answer-

ing the call to the nation.

The three first named were gentlemen jockeys, while Shaw was a

boxer. Thoroughbred Racing.

Racing, in truth, was the biggest sufferer. The sport lost such earnest workers and loval supporters as Schuyler L. Parsons, Philip J. Dwyer and Oscar Lewisohn. In addition to the three famous jockeys already mentioned, John Huggins, the fam-ous trainer, and Arthur Redfern and Joe McCahey, two of the leading jockeys of their day, answered the last call during the year just clos-ing. Andrew Welch, harness racing veteran and owner, died in February. | Arthur James, another famous race norse owner, died in London, Knap |ca McCarthy, veteran race driver, was

Boxing also was a heavy sufferer in the loss of Charley White, famed death came after unfortunate experiences in this country; Dick Roche, one of the biggest plungers of his day and the backer of John L.Sullivan and manager of Jack Dempsey; Bob Vernon, well known as a stakeholder; Al Palzer, the man who killed Luther McCarthy and was himself Luther McCarthy and was himself shot and killed by his father; Jim Barry, who was shot in Panama; Willie Lucas, lightweight boxer, and "Soldier Johnny" Shaw, Base Ball.

Base ball will miss many men who were closely identified with the game and who ever worked to elevate the standard-W. C. Temple, who really

originated the world's series by offering the Temple cup a number of years ago and former president of the Pi.tsburgh ball club; Tim Mur-nane, dean of all base ball writer.; William G. Weart, Philadelphia base William G. Weart, Philadelphia base ball scribe and secretary of the Ba. 2 Ball Writers' as ociation; E. die Doheny ,who used to pitch for the Giants and Pitates; T. H. Stuckney, former president of the Louisville Namer president of the Louisvi former major league pitcher; A. C Buckenberger, formerly manager the Pittsburgh team and later its president; William A. (Tony) James, veteran base ball catcher; Cy Alberts, another veteran of minor league fame, and Steve Brady, once captain of the famous Metropolitans of New

Tennis and Golf.

Dr. James Dwight, called the father of lawn tennis, was the chief loss to this sport. Robert Powell, former tennis champion of British Columbia. was killed in France. Hundreds of golfers mourn the death of Willie Smith, open champion of the United States in 1899 and counted as the most graceful player in the professional ranks.

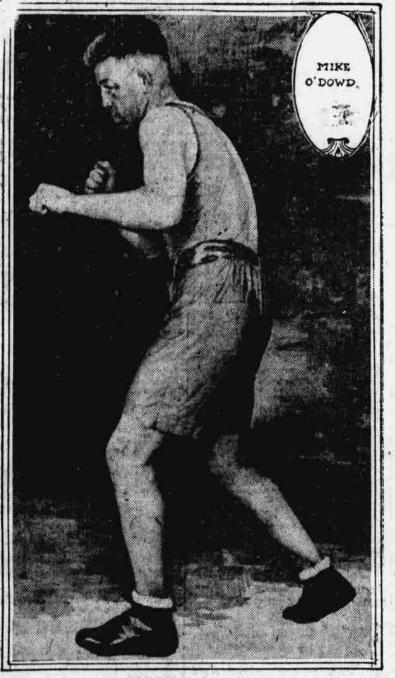
Track Athletics.

Track and field athletics did not escape either. Evert Jansen Wendell of Harvard was the friend of all boys. He devoted his life to philanthropic work, and amateur athletics was his hobby. He was the first American college athlete to run 100 yards in 10 seconds flat.

Wrestling lost two great champions, Joe Acton, formerly champion (Continued on Page Nine, Column Six.)



CHARLES LARSON.





QINTL.

EDDIE ROUSCH

Champions in the Field of Sport in 1917

.750 .750 .700 .667 .667 .667

Bowdoln 3 Wash. & Jeff 7 West Virginia 6

Maryn De Falma.	Wash. & Jeff 7 3	
BASE BALL.		1
Batting-Ty Cobb, American league; Ed-	Lehigh 6 3	0
le Roush, National league.	Colgate 4 2	0
Pitching-Eddle Cleotte.	Dartmouth 5 3 4	2
Pitching—Eddle Cleotte, World's Championship—Chicago White	Tufts 3 2	
ox.	Wesleyan	8
Pennant Winners-Major leagues: Ameri-	Boston 3 2	0
an, Chicago; National, New York.	Amherst 4 3	0
Class AA-International, Toronto; Amer-		1
an Association, Indianapolis; Pacific Coast,		9
an Francisco.		
Class A-Southern Association, Atlanta;	Springfield 3 3	1
Vestern, Des Moines.		î
Class B-New York State, Wilkes-Barre;		0
astern, New Heven; Central, Grand Rap-		0
s; North Western, Great Falls; Texas,		
allas; Three-I, Peoria.	Haverford 2 3	
	Cornell 3 5	9
Class C-South Atlantic, Columbia; Vir-		0
nia, Newport News.		1
Class D-Blue Ridge, Hagerston; Central		ô
ssociation, Marshalltown; Central Texas,		2
nnis; Dixie, Moultrie; Georgia-Alabama, nniston; North Carolina, Durham; Western		ŏ
	Alounce	
succintion, McAlester,	GOLF.	
BASKET BALL	Only these champles the sall tons	1
Illinois Athletic club.	Only three championship golf tour	
BILLIARDS.	were played in 1917 and none under	
	rection of the national body, because	
Balk Line-Willie Hoppe.	war. Those played were as follow	
Three Cushlon-Alfred De Oro.	Western AmateurFrancis	. v
Pocket Billiards-Frank Taberski.	Western OpenJames	
BICYCLING,	Women's Metropolitan Mrs. W.	
	The national titles went over for	а,
Frank Kramer.	and consequently are still held by ti	1479
BOXING,	Amnteur	4
Heavyweight-Jess Willard.	Open	K
Light Heavyweight-Billy Miske.	Women'sMiss Alexa	· 'e
	Women's	100
Middleweight—Mike O'Dowd. Welterweight—Ted Lewis.	HOCKEY.	
Lightweight-Benny Leonard.	AmateurBosto	
Featherweight-Johnny Kilbane.	Intercollegiate	
Bantamweight-Pete Herman.	Pacific Coast Scattle Metr	one
Flyweight-Jimmy Wilde,	Canadian	
FOOT BALL.		
	HORSE BACING,	
Team Won. Lost. Tied. P. C.	2-year-old colts Sa 2-year-old fillies Rosie 3-year-old colts Omar I	m
	2-year-old fillies Rosie	O,
	8-year-old coltsOmar I	Chi
	3-year-old fillies	1
	Older horsesOld	Re
	JumpersSt.	h
	SWIMMING.	
the state of the s	Sprinting	
	Middle distances	
ennsylvania 9 2 0 .818	Middle distances	G
familton 4 1 0 .800	Middle distancesNorn MarathonJoseph Women's sprintingDoroti	G
	Middle distances	G

What? Get This! St. Louis Cards Cut 6 Per Cent Melon

AUTOMOBILING.

For the first time in five years the

resenting 6 per cent on the \$350,000 Bush is unmarried and lives with his paid to Mrs. Britton last winter for the grounds, franchise and players, ing the playing season. This turn in the tide was due to two reasons-the excellent showing of the Cardinals under Miller Huggins and the capable business management of

by Fielder Jones, narrowly escaped the cellar berth in the American. California Seeks Clash

Long Distance Speed Star

one more from the ranks of sport to like to schedule a return game for 1919 charity. The rule will be inserted get into the fighting forces of Uncle with the South Bend eleven to be in all future contracts signed by the played in Chicago, it is said.

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Bush Sours on Indianapolis As Jack Dillon Fades Away

Owen Bush, veteran shortstop of St. Louis Cardinals made money this the Detroit Americans, has about decided to move from Indianapolis and The club cleared about \$20,000, rep- make his winter home in Detroit. mother, who keeps house for him durseems rather downhearted

recently, because his bosom friend, Jack Dillon, has closed his career as a fighter. The "Hoosier Bearcat" and Branch Rickey.

The St. Louis Browns, on the other hood and Bush often insisted that Dilhand, lost twice as much as the lon wsa about the greatest fighter in Cardinals earned. The Browns, led the universe.

TENNIS National—R. Lindley Murray. National Junior—Charles Gariand, National Boy's—Vincent Richards. Woman's National—Mary Browne. Court Tennis—Jay Gould, TRACK EVENTS

One-mile run, J. W. Ray4.18	
Five-mile run, Charles Pores 26.20 2-5	á
120-yard hurdles, H. E. Barron0.15	
220-yard hurdles, H. F. Loomis 0.24 4-5	
Three-mile walk, G. Goulding 21.15 1-5	Ä.
FIELD EVENTS, .	13
Feet, Inches	
High jump, C. Larson 6 23-8	×
Broad jump, J. Irish 22 4 3-4	
Pole vault, E. Knourek 12 9	ď
Discus throw, A. Mucks 140 1-2	9
Hammer throw, P. Ryan168 71-2	
Shot put, A. Mucks 45 10 5-8	1
Javelin throw, G. Bronder 154 1-2	1
56-pound weight, P. Ryan 33 3 Hop, step and Jump, D. Abearne 47 8	
Hop, step and Jump, D. Ahearne 47 8	
TRAP SHOOTING.	а
National Champions.	T.
Amateur, Singles-Mark Arie of Thomas-	

sional, Singles-Homer Clark of Al Professional, Singles—Homes Charles
ton, Ill,
Amateur, Doubles—Clarence B. Piatt of
Bridgeton, N. J.
Open, Doubles—William Ridley of What
Cheer, Ia.
Amateur, 200 Targets—Charles B. Newcomb of Philadelphia, Pa.
All-round, Open-Bart Lewis of Auburn, All-around, Amateur-Mark Arie of Thom sboro, Ill. Eighteen Yards—Fred Tomlin of Penns U. S. S. Navy—F. P. Williams of U. S. S. Intercollegiate, Team—Princeton. Intercollegiate, Individual—C. V. Caesar,

Grand American—C. H., Larson of Wan-baca, Wis., 98 from 20 yards. Eastern—K. R. Noble of Hartford, Conn., Eastern—K. R. Noble

Fastern—K. R. Noble

7 from 18 yards,
Southern—L. G. Richards of Richm

Southern—L. G. Richards of Richm Southern—L. G. Richards of Richmond, Va., 92 from 21 yards. Western—M. H. McDaniel of Durant, Okl., 97 from 20 yards. Pacific Coast—Charles Yocum of Tulare, Cal., 95 from 18 yards. *Professional.

Harry Coveleskie Will

Try to Stage Comeback Harry Coveleskie, formerly the leading left-hander on the pitching staff of the Detroit Americans, will try to come back next spring. He was almost worthless to the club last season because his pitching arm went back on him. Coveleskie has been taking treatments and hopes to convince Manager Jennings that he should receive another trial. "Covie" is married and not subject to the

Wisconsin Commish Takes Slap at Dancing Masters

Boxers seeking "soft" matches had With Notre Dame Eleven better look elsewhere than in Wis-Andy Smith, head coach of the consin rings. The state boxing com-Enters Artillery Service University of California, formerly mission, in a new edict to stamp out Abel Kiviat, one of America's most noted milers, has enlisted in the army. has been making overtures for a foot found guilty of "stalling" will not re-ball game with Notre Dame to be ceive a penny of the purse. His lery at Fort Hamilton, N. Y. making played in California in 1918. He would share, instead, will be donated to



1918 PROMISES LITTLE TO THE **LOVER OF SPORT**

Base Ball, Boxing, Racing, College Athletics, All Headed Toward Toboggan as New Year Approaches.

The sport fan, looking forward to 1918, finds little solace for the disappointing year of 1917. Prospects for a successful year are slim.

Base ball, the national pastime, faces a precarious outlook at best. Major league ball, no doubt, will continue but it will fall far below the standard set by the last decade. Many young stars already have answered the colors, many more will be summoned by the draft and many of the fans are wearing khaki.

Little hope is held for minor league base ball. Of the 50 leagues active three years ago, only eight are sure to start in the spring and of the eight no one knows how many will be able

Automobile racing ceases entirely: The American Automobile association, under whose auspices all sanctioned speedway and road events are held, has decided to permit no more races as long as the war continues The only excitement for the speed enthusiasts then will be outlaw races which amount to little.

Thoroughbred and harness racing, both of which prospered during the year now closing, have prospects of another successful season, but the element of uncertainty is so predominate in all sport that one cannot venture to prophesy success for any enterprise.

Boxing, having lost its grip in New York state, has little to look forward to. Wrestling is fading fast. College athletics are bound to continue to

The outlook for 1918 is far from Haines and others.

bright for the sport fan.

Eddie Cicotte Marks Two American Hurling Records

Eddie Cicotte of the Chicago White Sox holds undisputed title to king among American league pitchers for the 1917 season. The official averages show he not only allowed the lowest percentage of earned runs, but he further demonstrated his value to his team by pitching more innings than any other twirler in the league. The little shine ball artist of the world's champions had a great year all around, he made a brilliant start with a no-hit game and he wound up just as brilliantly with good work in the world's series. What makes his record more remarkable is that he is no longer a youngster and was even counted as about ready for the minors several years ago. Cicotti live up to that record breaking year of says that was because he didn't take 1916, it probably will show itself betthe game seriously enough. He concluded to get down to business and show the world what he could do. The American league pitching records for 1917 show how well he suc-

Omaha Champs of the Year 1917

Base Ball—Armours, Class A; MurphyDid-its, Class B; Sample-Harts, Class C.
Basket Ball—Brandels, independent;
Omaha National banks, Commercial league;
First Methodists, Church league.
Billiards—W. N. Chambers.
Bowiling—Oma's team champions; Wait'
Goff and Ken Sciple, doubles champions;
Al Wartchow and H. L. McCoy, tied for
singles championship; H. L. McCoy, allevents champion: A. B. Sweet Shops, woman's team champions: Miss Verda Pilling,
woman's singles champion.
Curling—Balmorals, team champions;
Alec Melvin, individual champion.
Fot Ball—Nonparells.
Golf—Sam Reynolds, Transmississippi
champion; Guy Beckett, state champion;
Jack Hughes, city champion.
Hand Ball—C. G. Linn.
Motorcycling—Otto Ramer.
Pocket Billiards—Benny Owens.
Soccer—Townsends.
Soccer—Townsends.

Pocket Billiards—Belly Owns.
Soccer—Townsends.
Squash—Spike Kennedy.
Tennis—Rev. John Calvert; Addie Fogg,
coman's champion.
Trap shooting—C. L. Waggoner.

SPORT LOVERS IN **OMAHALOOK BACK** OVER GOOD YEAR

Nineteen Seventeen Fails to Equal Record-Breaking Mark of 1916, But it Does Fairly Well.

Glancing back over the old year before we give it a parting kick in the slats and speed it on its way into the dark recesses of the forgotten past, one finds that 1916 was a pretty good old year at that.

The Rourkes didn't win any pennant, the Armours didn't get very far in the amateur world's series, Creighton got wolloped a couple of times and the University of Nebraska's showing on the gridiron was nothing to get into ecstasies about, but the chap who plunked down his change at the box office generally got his money's worth, so there is no kick

Omaha's failure in the Western league race, of course, was the principal disappointment. The Rourkes looked like winners at the start of the season, but as usual the dope flivvered abominably. But some mighty good games of base ball were staged out at the Vinton street lot and it is with a feeling of regret that we look back over the base ball

Many Big Events.

In the way of big sporting events Omaha got more than its share. No city of corresponding size entertained more big events this year than did

A handful of big wrestling matches, the automobile classic, the Great Western circuit harness races, the state golf tournament, all were rare

The Earl Caddock-Joe Stecher match was the biggest wrestling event of the year. In this match the championship changed hands and the wrestling game all over the country given new life.

It also was one of the greatest surprises of the year. Rather small of build for a heavyweight wrestler, the trim and well-proportioned Caddock was not even given an outside chance to win. But he startled all the experts, students and just plain fans by pinning the great Stecher's shoulders to the mat for a fall and then making him quit the ring and lose the match.

The Stecher-Caddock watch was not the only big mat event of the year in Omaha. Stecher and Charley Pet-ers fought two hard and successful matches. Stecher and Marin Plestina grappled over two hours without a This match, however, is one upon which the stamp of failure can be placed because of Plestina's watch-ful waiting policy, Stecher's inability to carry the attack to Plestina and the referee's unusual-and some say impossible-decision at the con-

Automobile Derby.

The automobile derby July 4 was Omaha's last big speedway race. The huge oval now is being torn down and no more will gate city speed enthusiasts see the gasoline demons charge around the saucer in pursuit of fame and fortune at the risk of life and limb.

The race was a huge success and nearly equalled that famous classic of 1915-the race which has gone down in racing history as the greatest speedway event ever staged in any city, state or country-in the way of

Smiling Ralph Mulford, who lost a heart-breaking race to Dario Resta in 1915, came back this year and won the Independence day classic at the record-breaking speed of 101 miles an hour after a gruelling contest in which he barely outdistanced Thomas, Tommy Milton, Walter

Harness Racing.

Five days of Great Western circuit racing were staged at the Omaha Driving club's track for lovers of harness stepping. Some of the classiest pacers and trotters in the country took part in the events and no more interesting contests were to be seen on any other circuit, not even the Grand circuit. Three days of state circuit racing also were staged in June on the local track.

Tug-of-war fans were treated to several interesting pulls. The Omaha coppers and the Denver coppers clashed in one classic and the coppers and the Nonpareils in another.

Despite the war, golf, tennis, ama-teur base ball, foot ball, trap shooting, billiards, pool, in fact all of the major sports enjoyed a prosperous year in Omaha, and although 1917 did not ter than 1918 for which prospects, it must be admitted, are slim indeed.

Big Ban Spikes Talk of Switching Senator Games

President Ban Johnson of the American league has recently expressed disapproval of a suggestion that has been going the rounds that one set of Washington's home games-16 in all-be transferred to Toronto next summer, in case the International league is not in operation. While paying compliments to Toronto as a base ball city, Mr. Johnson says such action would not be fair to the fans of Washington. He agrees with Clark Griffith that base ball may draw more patronage in Washington next year than it has for several seasons past.

Chick Gandil Leads All American First Sackers

The American league fielding averages show Clark Gandil, the White Sox pleyer, to be the best fielding baseman in the league. In 149 games Gandil had 1,490 chances and handled all but eight of them perfectly, this giving him an average